



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI PALERMO

CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES 'A.S.CENT.

CENTRE OF ADVANCED STUDIES 'A.S.CENT.

The Director: *Prof. Avv. Antonello MIRANDA*

Full prof. of Comparative and European Law



To the attention of the Scientific Board of the
Centre of Advanced Studies A.S.Cent.

Annual report on the Centre's activities (final) -2022

Dear Colleagues,

As already reported to the board, the activities and critical issues that affected the Centre of Advanced Studies in 2022 are summarized below.

Given that, as you know, the appointments of the Centre's Director and Scientific Council were issued on 19/7/2022 and 5/8/2022, respectively, and that the centre's Rules and Regulations were issued in their final form on 22 September 2022, that the same council met for the first time in the presence of the Magnificent Rector on 23 September 2022, this report can obviously cover the activities carried out during the months of October, November and December 2022.

During these three months, the main task was to identify personal staff to be assigned to the Centre, and particularly an administrative manager, a manager of communication, organisation, promotion, marketing, and fundraising activities, as well as the coordination of external and internal relations (technical secretariat). Unfortunately, despite continuous requests, apart from the declared willingness of Mrs. Daniela Cataldo who, out of a spirit of service, provided herself to perform the functions of technical secretary even in the absence of a specific ad hoc assignment but because of a letter received from the acting Director in-chief, the designation of personal units has not yet been obtained. Therefore, the Centre's activities have been left to the goodwill of individual professors and member of the Scientific Board and their initiatives.

The Centre, moreover, despite what is laid down in the Rules and Regulations and what the Director in-chief has guaranteed, currently has neither its own premises nor the possibility of using the spaces of the former Hotel de France, in particular the six rooms on the top floor, which have long been identified as the Centre's administration offices and rooms for hosting visiting professors.

Again, the Centre's activities continue, relying on the goodwill of the board members and the director, who take turns hosting board meetings and the Centre's administrative and accounting activities.

In this regard, it should be pointed out that the initial budget of EUR 100,000, EUR 60,000 of which was to be used to purchase furniture for the guest professors' rooms (rooms to be converted into self-catering studio flats, as provided for in the Centre's development plan), was not used, given that the Centre was activated at the end of September, given the absence of an administrative manager and the fact that the accounts were about to be closed, and above all

A.S.Cent. - Centre of Advanced Studies, Palermo University

<https://www.unipa.it/strutture/centre-of-advanced-studies/home.html>

General Communications: advstudies@unipa.it

Administrative Office: ascent.admin@unipa.it



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI PALERMO

CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES 'A.S.CENT.

CENTRE OF ADVANCED STUDIES 'A.S.CENT.

The Director: Prof. Avv. Antonello MIRANDA

Full prof. of Comparative and European Law



given the fact that the premises of the former Hotel de France were not granted. Added to this is the fact that just as the Centre's regulations were being approved, a new Director in-chief was appointed, with the consequent difficulties of organisation and reorganisation in accounting and administration.

Despite the critical issues outlined above, which have not yet been resolved, the Centre has planned several activities and sought alternative solutions for its operation and the achievement of its goals.

To this end, all the members of the Council took steps to inform the relevant scientific community and through the departmental directors of the Centre's activation and to publicise the planned initiatives.

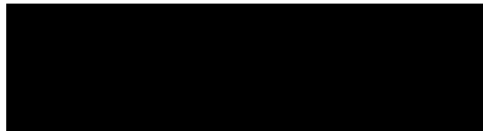
In October, the director of the Centre also initiated talks with the Mayor of Bagheria and the Secretary of the Institute of Afro-Asiatic Studies "I.S.A.I.A.S." for the possible concession of space for the Centre's headquarters and for the creation of a seasonal school and reception and hospitality spaces for visiting fellows. Similar discussions were initiated in November with the Mayor of Palermo and, in December, with the Mayor of Monreale.

In addition, a privileged channel was established with the President of the MedOr Foundation for cooperation with our Centre with a view to setting up a seasonal school and/or a Master's degree in Euro-planning open to researchers and PhDs from North Africa and the Middle East (as well as Europe and other countries), with funding provided by MedOr itself.

Finally, the Centre, in agreement with Pro-Dean Beatrice Pasciuta, contributed to the establishment of the Gender Studies PhD and the activities of the gender equality observatory.

The Director

Prof. Adv. Antonello MIRANDA



A.S.Cent. - Centre of Advanced Studies, Palermo University

<https://www.unipa.it/strutture/centre-of-advanced-studies/home.html>

General Communications: advstudies@unipa.it

Administrative Office: ascent.admin@unipa.it